

Message Text

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ORIGIN AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 L-03 SMS-01
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DRAFTED BY FAS:CP:G&F:LLPANASUK:DLH
APPROVED BY EB/OFPP/FPD:JABOYLE
FAS:CP:G&F:DJNOVOTNY
FAS:CP:TOYLOE
FAS:CP:TSAYLOR
AO:REULER
AGRIC:ERBEVIS
EB/OFPP/FPD:RZORN
STATE:EUR:SOV:JTREICHOL
-----044773 311458Z /50
R 311420Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, UR

SUBJECT: AUTUMN GRAIN CONSULTATIONS

REF: A) STATE 209992 B) 20630

1. ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR FAS TOM SAYLOR HELD MEETING WITH SOVIET COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR KRUGLOV ON AUGUST 23 TO DISCUSS PRELIMINARIES REGARDING AUTUMN GRAIN CONSULTATIONS. FYI MR. KRUGLOV INDICATED HE WOULD BE SUGGESTING TO MOSCOW THAT THE MEETING BE HELD OCTOBER 11 VERSUS OCTOBER 10 TO FACILITATE TEAM TRAVEL ON AEROFLOT AIRLINES.

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2. AGENDA FOR CONSULTATIONS WILL BE SIMILAR TO THAT OR PREVIOUS SESSIONS, EXCEPT KRUGLOV DESIRES TO INCLUDE DISCUSSION ON GRAIN QUALITY AND WILL POSSIBLY SUGGEST REVISED INSPECTION STANDARDS IN ATTEMPT TO DISALLOW CURRENT LIVE INSECT TOLERANCE. HE ALSO INDICATED A DESIRE TO PROPOSE A BILATERAL QUARANTINE ARRANGEMENT WHICH WAS INITIALLY PROPOSED VERBALLY BY AGRICULTURAL COUNSELOR GAVA

EARLIER THIS YEAR. AT THAT TIME APHIS INDICATED BY LETTER THAT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WAS NOT NECESSARY SINCE BOTH THE US AND USSR ARE PARTIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION AND THAT APHIS IS ALREADY AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT

IN BOTH THE US-USSR AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT AND THE US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGREEMENT.

3. KRUGLOV INDICATED CONCERN THAT THE RECENT DETERIORATION IN US-USSR RELATIONS AND CUTBACK IN U.S. TECHNOLOGY EXPORTS MIGHT ALSO AFFECT THE GRAIN TRADE. SAYLOR REASSURED KRUGLOV THAT U.S. LOOKED FORWARD TO A CONTINUATION OF GRAIN TRADE CITING THE RECENT STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE REPORTED IN THE JULY 20, 1978 PRESS RELEASE. (FYI SECRETARY BERGLAND STATED: QUOTE I CAN SAY UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF GRAIN SALES BOTH TO THE U.S.S.R. AND TO OUR OWN ECONOMY, AND THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THE SOVIETS TO SATISFY THEIR IMPORT NEEDS WITH U.S. GRAINS, SOYBEANS AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. END QUOTE) KRUGLOV INDICATED THAT CONTINUATION OF THE GRAIN TRADE WAS IMPORTANT NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF HUGE U.S. STOCKS BUT BECAUSE IT WAS BENEFICIAL TO BOTH SIDES.

4. NOTE: REF B WAS RECEIVED AFTER THIS CABLE WRITTEN. CHRISTOPHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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